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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Fifth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries

Yaounde, Cameroon, 2-4 April 1986

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Sixth Meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries

Yaounde, Cameroon, 15-16 April 1986

LC/NAIROBI

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

I. Opening of the meeting

1. The fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts and Sixth Meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries (hereinafter referred to as the Conference) will be declared open on Wednesday 2 April 1986 and Tuesday 15 April 1986 respectively.

2. The Provisional Agenda of the two meetings is proposed as follows:

(i) Opening of the meeting
(ii) Statement by the Executive Secretary
(iii) Statement by the Secretary-General of the OAU
(iv) Election of officers
(v) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
(vi) Review of economic and social conditions in African least developed countries, 1984-1985.
(vii) Progress towards the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in the African LDCs (A note by ECA Secretariat)
(viii) Food strategies in the African least developed countries: An assessment
(ix) Review of ECA activities in 1984-1985 and work programme for 1986-1987 in favour of African least developed countries
(x) Adoption of the report and closuer of meeting

II. Agenda item (ii): Statement by the Executive Secretary

3. Professor Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the ECA will deliver substantive opening statements at the meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts and Conference of Ministers of African LDCs.

III. Agenda item (iii): Statement by the Secretary-General of the OAU

4. Mr. Ide Omarou, Secretary-General of the OAU is expected to deliver an opening statement at the meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs.

IV. Agenda item (iv): Election of Officers

5. In the context of rules 14 and 15 of the rules of procedure of the Commission the meetings will elect a chairman, two vice-chairmen and a rapporteur.

V. Agenda item (v): Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

6. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the Commission, the Intergovernemtnal Committee of Experts and Conference of Ministers of African LDCs will adopt the agenda and establish the procedure for the conduct of the meetings.

VI. Agenda item (vi): Review of economic and social conditions in African LDCs, 1984-1985

7. The meetings will have before it document E/ECA/LDCs.6/EXP.5/2: Review of economic and social conditions in African Least Developed Countries, 1984-1985. The paper covering two years (i.e. 1984 and 1985) reviews the macro and sectoral growth trends and overall socio-economic performance in the African LDCs with emphasis on key sectors such as food and agriculture, industrial development, transport and communications and on the basis of available information analysis the major development problems encountered as well as policies being pursued by individual countries.

VII. Agenda item (vii): Progress towards the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in the African LDCs

8. Under this agenda item the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts and the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs will consider Document E/ECA/LDCs.6/EXP.5/3: Progress toward the implementation of the Substnatial New Programme of Action in African least developed countries, 1984-1985 (a note by ECA secretariat). The main issues include: an evaluation of the national actions taken by the African LDCs and the international support measures provided up to 1984 in terms of volume of ODA transfers, aid modalities and debt relief measures; a review of the major conclusions and recommendations of the Mid-Term Global Review of the SNPA and basic measures to be adopted by the African LDCs for the realization of the objectives of the SNPA during the rest of the 1980s.

VIII. Agenda item (viii): Food strategies in the African LDCs: an Assessment

9. Within the framework of the regular work programme, the secretariat had prepared an indepth study on food strategies in the African LDCs (document E/ECA/LDCs.6/EXP.5/4), which assess food production situation in terms of its availability to satisfy national requirements as well as the attainment of the objectives of food self-sufficiency. National food strategies as they exist in the LDCs are reviewed in the context of (i) the Regional Food Plan for Africa (ii) the Lagos Plan of Action and (iii) the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA). The study indicates that per capita food production in the African LDCs has been on the decline since the 1970s and per capita daily supplies of calories and protein have consequently been reduced to undesirable nutritional levels. Increasing food aid and commercial food imports therefore characterize the situation in most African LDCs. The paper then goes to spell out a few measures that needs to be taken in order to redress the situation in future.

IX. Agenda item (ix): Review of ECA activities in 1984-1985 and work programme for 1986-1987 in favour of African LDCs

10. Under the above agenda item, the secretariat will present document E/ECA/LDCs.6/EXP.5/5 on its activities carried out in 1984-1985 including its proposed work programme for the period 1986-1987 in favour of the African LDCs. During 1984-1985 technical assistance and advisory services were provided to some African LDCs who requested for such assistance. The secretariat undertook various studies including the "Reviews of Economic and Social Conditions in African LDCs, 1984-1985" and "Food Strategies in African LDCs: An Assessment." Other substantive Divisions of the secretariat also provided technical assistance and advisory services and undertook other activities of substantial benefit to the African LDCs during the period under review.

X. Agenda item (x): Consideration and adoption of the report and closure of the meeting

11. The Fifth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts will consider and adopt its report, recommendations and resolution(s) which will be submitted to the Sixth Meeting of the Conference for consideration and approval. The final report of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs will in turn be forwarded to the Twenty-first Session of the Commission/Twelfth Meeting of the Conference of Ministers of ECA.